

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for displaying information comprising displaying information in a display screen region of a hand held device in an area identified by permanent printing.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein said hand held device comprises a main display screen region distinct from said display screen region, said main display screen region free of any area of permanent printing.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein said display screen region is implemented using a first display screen unit, and said main display screen region is implemented using a second display screen unit.
4. The method of Claim 3 further comprising turning off said second display screen unit and displaying said information on said first display screen unit.
5. The method of Claim 3 further comprising displaying said information on said first display screen unit automatically in response to a signal for turning off said second display screen unit.
6. The method of Claim 1 wherein said information is clock display information.

7. The method of Claim 3 further comprising sending information for a clock display to said first display screen unit automatically in response to a signal for turning off said second display screen unit.

- 5 8. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

sensing stroke gestures within said permanent printing area via a digitizing panel; and

displaying a representation of ink on said display screen region, said representation corresponding to said stroke gestures.

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9. The method of Claim 2 wherein said display screen region and said main display screen region are regions of a single display unit.

10. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

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displaying a keyboard image on said display screen region;

sensing a stroke via a digitizing panel; and

selecting an alphanumeric character for input into said hand held computer system from the correspondence of said displayed keyboard image and said stroke sensed via said digitizing panel.

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11. The method of Claim 1 wherein said information is an alert status message on said display screen region.

12. The method of Claim 1 wherein said information is the dialog of a telephone call on said display screen region.

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13. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a short message; and

displaying said short message on said display screen region.

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14. A hand held computer system comprising:

a first display screen region for displaying first information, said first display screen region identified by permanent printing; and

a second display screen region for displaying second information.

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15. The hand held computer system of Claim 14 further comprising a processor for recognizing stroke gestures made in said first display region.

16. The hand held computer system of Claim 14 further comprising a digitizing

panel functionally coupled to said first display screen region and said second display screen region.

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17. The hand held computer system of Claim 14 wherein said first display region and said second display region are separate regions of a single display.

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18. The hand held computer system of Claim 14 wherein said first display screen region and said second display screen region are implemented as a first display screen unit and a distinct second display screen unit.

19. The hand held computer system of Claim 18 wherein said first display screen unit is configured to remain operational when said second display unit is turned off.

5 20. The hand held computer system of Claim 18 wherein said first display screen unit is configured to turn on automatically in response to a signal turning off said second display screen unit.

10 21. The hand held computer system of Claim 18 wherein said first display screen unit is specialized for a clock display.

15 22. The hand held computer system of Claim 14 further comprising a protective display cover, said protective display cover comprising at least one non-opaque region for viewing said first display region through said non-opaque region when said display cover is covering the display.

20 23. In a hand held computer system, a method for displaying information comprising:
 displaying program information on a main display screen region of said hand held computer system; and
 in response to an event, displaying secondary information on a second display screen region identified by permanent printing therein, wherein said displaying secondary information does not interfere with said displaying program information on said main display screen region.

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24. The method of Claim 23 wherein said event is an incoming phone call and wherein said secondary information is a dialog enabling the receipt of said phone call.

5 25. The method of Claim 23 wherein said event is the receipt of a short message and wherein said secondary information is the body of said short message.

26. The method of Claim 23 wherein said event is a clock update and wherein said secondary information is clock display information.

27. The method of Claim 23 wherein said event is a program event requiring a user to enter alphanumeric data into said program and wherein said secondary information is a keyboard image.

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